



Initial Review
BOX AF

#10
S.S.H.
6-24-96

B-2750 FWC / 615179

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Sau-Gee Chen and Chieh-Chih Li
Serial No.: 08/510,740
Filed: August 2, 1995
Title: METHOD FOR FINDING QUOTIENT IN A DIGITAL SYSTEM

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Group Art Unit: 2306

JUN 20 1996

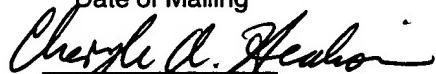
GROUP 2306

Examiner: E. Moise

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST CLASS MAIL in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on:

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RESPONSE TO FINAL REJECTION

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231
BOX AF

Sir:

The Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the Final Rejection as premature.

The Examiner has issued a Final Rejection indicating that Claims 1 - 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter, stating that the newly added step of "storing in said memory ..." represents

insignificant post-solution activity, citing the older decisions of Abele, Walker, Flook, and In re Castelet. However, the Examiner appears to have not considered the more recent 35 U.S. C. §101 decision in In re Alappat as pointed out in the Applicants' Communication filed on December 12, 1996.

As pointed out in the Applicants' Communication of December 12, 1996, in the 1994 Alappat decision the majority opinion stated that programming of a general purpose computer creates a new machine, because a general purpose computer in effect becomes a special purpose computer once it is programmed to perform particular functions pursuant to instructions from programmed software. In this context, the Applicants submit that they have invented a new kind of computer which operates in a more efficient manner in the area of finding a quotient, utilizing novel and inventive steps for generating data representative of such a quotient.

However, if the Examiner does not withdraw the Final Rejection, the Applicants request that the Examiner address the Alappat issue and provide a timely Advisory Action to enable the Applicants to effectively prepare an Appeal, should the Applicants undertake to do so.

Respectfully submitted,

LADAS & PARRY

By: 

Richard J. Paculan

Reg. No. 28,248

Attorney for Assignee

Ladas & Parry

5670 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 2100
Los Angeles, California 90036
(213) 934-2300